

EL-2190

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Phillis Johnson-Ball
Surface Transportation Board
1925 K Street NW
Washington D.C. 20423

April 21, 2006

Subject: Finance Docket No. 34797 –Opposition to Plan
Woburn & Wilmington Terminal Railway

Dear Phillis,

You may not be fully aware of the environmental problems that Olin Chemical Company have bestowed upon our community, which has been and still is detrimental to our health, property values, and the loss of our groundwater for the past 20 years. The loss of our groundwater has cost our community over \$250,000,000. over the past 20 years caused directly by Olin Chemical Company's disposal habits of their Hazardous Wastes.

The site has not been cleaned up to EPA or Mass. D.E.P. standards and to put a trash depot on the site is to put it mildly a slap in the face of our community. If this project is approved not only have we lost our precious water supply and environment but will now have to put up with the noise and emission pollution by freight trains all night and over 400 tractor trailer trucks coming in and out of the location all day. The 400 are just for starters. Before we know it, there will be 1000 trucks in and out. Did you ever hear a 15 speed Tractor Trailer go through the gears to attain cruising speed or the noise from downshifting to decrease their speed? Well I have and it is not a pleasant experience and we will not put up with it. This is the wrong site for the wrong type of operation.

We have note even had a ROD by EPA & Mass. DEP yet pertaining to the clean up of the site. It is unbelievable to me that our government would allow such a facility in this location at this time or any time after all our community has had to go through to this date. I do not think you would like having this operation in your community and I would like you to ask the other Board Members if they would want it in their community. If they would not mind then we can help to assist you in relocating the proposed facility in your own communities. There are numerous alternatives to this facility and this facility does not benefit the community that it is proposed to be located in.

I have read your letter dated April 7, 2006 and since the project sounds so good, I think it should be located in a community that will be getting the benefit of the installation. All Woburn & Wilmington will be getting is the bad end of the stick, so to speak...

I realize that your job is the rail & surface transportation aspect of the site. The site is presently off the intersection of US Routes 95 and 93 and is statistically known as the most dangerous piece of highway in Massachusetts. Locally it is called Malfunction Junction!

I invite you and the Board to spend a few days near the proposed site so you can witness what I am saying is true. Seeing is believing. Our community would be happy to raise the funds needed to fly your Board in and pay for all your expenses for a week visit so you would be more able to make an informed decision.

The community is so upset at this proposed action that I think it would be very wise for you to take us up on our offer to bring your Board in to see with your own eyes the destruction that Olin Chemical has already done to our community and how much further the destruction would be if this project was allowed to go forward.

There are Elementary Schools within eye, ear and nose, vision, hearing, and smell, as well as heavily populated residential homes in direct vicinity of this proposed project. We would be infested with rodents, birds (seagulls), and disease carrying insects on top of it all.

In short, please vote against this project and I beg you to recommend your Board Members to vote NO to this project.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John F. Salemme".

John F. Salemme
Resident of Woburn, Massachusetts
Member of the Woburn Water Advisory Committee

CC: Woburn City Council Members
Mayor Thomas McLaughlin
Woburn Daily Times